

GRACE CHURCH VISITOR

A MONTHLY DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE GRACE REFORMED CHURCH AND SUNDAY SCHOOL.

VOLUME 1.

FORT WAYNE, IND., JULY, 1889.

NUMBER 7.

THE PASTORATE.



THE FIRST year of the present pastorate ended with the 1st of June. To the pastor and people of Grace Church this was a year of great anxiety, and earnest toil. One year ago the pastor and his family, had the trying experience of severing their relations with the beloved people of their former parish. Seven years of prayerful work among this people, was sufficient to endear and wed them to our hearts. Though having no longer the spiritual oversight of those people, they shall never be forgotten, and we shall always continue to cherish in our hearts a tender solicitude for their success, and for their spiritual well-being.

In coming among the people of Grace Church we were strangers in a strange land, an experience that is more trying in the pastoral life than in any other. There is no other sphere of life, in which a man so much needs the sympathy, and love of the people as in the pastoral life. No class of men so fully appreciate the esteem and affection of the people, as do the ministers of the gospel. The pastor is an evangel of love; his theme is the story of redeeming love; his life like unto that of his master, is a life of self-sacrificing love; his joy of heart a reciprocation of love on the part of his people. A people cannot inflict a more distressing wound upon the pastor's heart than to return to him evil for good. Many intentional wrongs are often offered to pastors. They bear it all quietly and without an open rebuke, but in their hearts, there is a piercing, driving pain and sorrow.

A stranger among a strange people, the pastor, it seems, must first prove himself before he can feel himself established in the confidence, and appreciation of his flock, and before he can rely upon their hearty co-operation in his work. It perhaps should not be so, but it requires long and patient work and waiting, in many instances, before a pastor has won the full confidence of a parish.

In these particulars many of the people of Grace Church have proven themselves happy exceptions. During our first year's pastorate among this people, we have been assured of the esteem and good will which they have for their pastor, and of their willingness to co-operate with us, in the work which the Master has assigned unto us.

Throughout this past year Grace Church has been taking courage. In every department of church work there has been a revival, and an onward movement. The church is every day establishing itself more fully in the confidence of the community, and there are appearances of progress and growth upon every hand.

It is hoped that after one year of work among the people of Grace Church the pastor's designs and motives are fully understood. He feels that his word and work, should be a sufficient warrant to the people, of of his solicitude for the church and of his good will toward all, from the greatest unto the least. A pastor's motives are sometimes misunderstood and sometimes willfully misinterpreted. Our design has been, and shall continue to be, to preach by word and example Christ and Him crucified. Our only solicitude is to advance the interest of Grace Church, and to build up its membership in holiness of heart. The pastor has no confidence in the success of any work that is prompted by other than the most candid and purest of motives.

In the out start of this new pastoral year, we hope there may be a mutual confidence on the part of pastor and people, and that there may be mutual esteem and love, and a hearty co-operation in all the work of the church. We have a common interest before us, the success of Grace Church. Let this fact be uppermost in our hearts, and foremost in our prayers. The pastor has been so fully convinced of his need of the full co-operation of his people in his work, that he shall feel himself justified, to vacate the pastorate of any church, so soon as he can not have the sympathy and help of his people.

We believe that Grace Church has before it an open door. An open door of opportunity—to harvest many souls.

Truely the harvest is plenteous. How very many families are becoming available to the church. How many children there are, that remain for us, to be gathered into the Sunday-school, where they may be won for the Lord. Is the church now ready to go forth to such a harvest of souls?—Let Grace Church not become forgetful of its opportunities. By diligent and united effort in a very few years, Grace Church shall have an enrollment of twice its present membership, and it shall be sheltered under the roof of a comfortable and commodious church home. Let our efforts be united, earnest and prayerful, and the Master will give us the kingdom.

In the afternoon of June 25, the pastor and his family made a visit to the Orphan's Home. We were glad to find Father Rettig and his estimable lady, and all the children in good health, and in good cheer. We are always delighted to visit the home, and see how kindly the little ones are cared for, and how orderly and well behaved these children are. Their lot has certainly been cast in a pleasant place.

The home is to be enlarged in the near future, its present quarters are becoming two crowded. The home has just recently received a large bequest, of about \$10,000. There are at present fifty-two children at the home, and three more are to be added in a few days.

While at the home on this afternoon, we had the pleasure of meeting the members of the Home Mission Board of the Central and Northwest Synods. The Board was holding its quarterly meeting at the home. The members of the board present were the following: Rev. M. G. I. Stern, of Indianapolis; Rev. F. R. Schwedes, of Terre Haute; Rev. Accola, New Philadelphia, Ohio; and Rev. Henry Nau, Galion, Ohio. This board is doing very thorough and efficient work. Rev. C. Schaaf, of the St. John's Church and Mother Marguarid were also at the home at this same time. Our visit was enjoyed very much, indeed. Let us not forget the home in its wants. The Lord will remember the orphans through his people.

GRACE CHURCH VISITOR.

25 Cents per Year.

REV. A. K. ZARTMAN, A. M., - - Editor.

Board of Managers: REV. A. K. ZARTMAN, ELDER F. D. PAULUS, DEACON H. P. VORDERMARK.

Entered at the postoffice at Fort Wayne, Indiana, as second-class matter. Feb. 7, 1889.

The anniversary services of the church, June 9th, were both pleasant edifying. The attendance at the services morning and evening were quite large. The presence of Rev Loose and his lady during these meetings added very materially to the pleasantness of the occasion. The church was delighted with them, and they with the church. The Sabbath morning sermon, preached by Rev. Loose, was received with great favor by the congregation.

At the evening service brief addresses were made by different persons. F. D. Paulus spoke upon the work of the Sabbath school, D. W. Lord, the finances of the church, Miss Emma Ersig, the Ladies Missionary and Aid Society.

Grace Church has reasons to rejoice in the measure of success with which it has been blessed, during the time of its existence. Let the coming years of the church's history be years of prayerful and consecrated toil and Grace Church will become a powerful agent for good, both at home and abroad.

MISSION BAND.

The Children's Mission Band which has been in process of organization for some time, finally perfected its organization on Sabbath afternoon, June 23, by the adoption of a constitution and the election of officers. We publish below the constitution, so that each member of the Band can have a printed copy of it. The organization was affected with about forty members. This is a fair beginning, with ample room for improvement. The society should in a short time have a membership of not less than one hundred and fifty or two hundred. The Band has already done excellent work, and we are confident the little folks will be a band of earnest workers. One of the objects of the band is to instill in the hearts of the children and youth the spirit of missions. This era of the church is characteristically a missionary era. The child's heart should be permeated with this spirit. This society will aim to make at once little missionaries out of its members, by sending them out into the city to solicit members for the band, and also for the Sabbath School. This band will also aim to

infuse the spirit of giving into the hearts of the children. The church should endeavor to instill this spirit into the hearts of the little ones, so that the coming generation, may be liberal and generous hearted. We hope to see all the children of the church and Sabbath-school, and many others become members of our Mission Band. Let the members and friends of the church encourage the children in their work. The following persons were elected to office for the coming six months: Mrs. Zartman will act as President for the first six months; Vice-President, Etta Souder; Secretary, Alice Conet; Treasurer, Josie Zartman. Visiting Committee—Jessie Bradley, Flora Munn, Lizzie Rudisil, Daisy Walters, Carrie Souder, Myrtle Long, Mamie Vordermark, Gracie Little.

The society will hold its regular meetings in the afternoon of the first Sabbath of each month. The next meeting of the Band will be held on the first Sabbath of July.

The following is the constitution adopted by the Band:

ARTICLE I.

This Society shall be called "THE MISSION BAND" of the Grace Reformed Church of Fort Wayne, Ind.

ARTICLE II.

Its object shall be to interest and instruct the children in missionary work, and raise funds for the same.

ARTICLE III.

The membership of this Society shall consist of the children and youth of the congregation, and others who may be deemed worthy of membership.

ARTICLE IV.

The officers of this Band shall be President, Vice-president, Secretary and Treasurer. There shall also be a Visiting Committee, to be appointed monthly.

ARTICLE V.

The President or Vice-president shall preside at all meetings of the Society.

The Secretary shall keep a roll of the members and a careful record of the proceedings.

The Treasurer shall take charge of the funds and make a monthly report of the same.

The Treasurer shall disburse them according to the vote of the Society, and with the consent of the pastor.

The Visiting Committee shall visit all the children of the congregation and others, and invite them to become members. This committee shall also do the errands of the Society.

ARTICLE VI.

The meetings of the Band shall be held on the first Sabbath of the month, at the church, unless otherwise designated, and shall be opened and closed with devotional exercises.

ARTICLE VII.

The election of officers shall take place semi-annually (or quarterly,) at one of the regular meetings of the Band.

ARTICLE VIII.

This Constitution can be amended at any regular meeting of the Society, by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided notice has been given at a previous meeting.

ARTICLE IX.

This Band shall be under the control of one or more of the older members of the church, who shall be appointed by the consistory.

MARRIAGE BELLS.

At the home of Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Piepinbrink, 48 W. Washington street, June 12th, occurred the marriage of their daughter, Nettie, to Rev. E. Calvin Rust, late of the Theological Seminary at Collegeville, Pa. The family and a few friends were the only present to witness the ceremony. Among the guests was Rev. John B. Rust, of Canton, Ohio, brother of the groom. The bride and groom were the recipients of some very handsome presents, and they carry with them the best wishes of their many friends. Rev. Rust has before him a promising future. We feel confident that he will fill the pastoral office with credit to himself and to his calling. He has been fortunate in securing for himself such an amiable companion, who we are certain, will be an earnest and devoted co-laborer with the pastor in his work. Rev. Rust enters upon his ministerial work at Somerset, Ohio, where he and his lady will be kindly received and where there is open for them both a pleasant and fruitful field of labor. The pastor of Grace Church feels himself peculiarly responsible, to a certain extent at least, for the success of this brother and his companion in this field of labor. Inasmuch as he first recommended this brother to the people of the Somerset charge, and now has also been instrumental in identifying with him in his work "his better-half." We hope to hear of a good work done in their field of labor and of a happy and prosperous life. They have the good wishes and prayers of Grace Church and pastor in their work.

GRACE REFORMED CHURCH.

Our Church Parlors on East Washington St., between Barr and Lafayette streets.

SERVICES.

Sabbath morning,	10:30
Sabbath evening	7:30
Sunday School,	9:30
Teachers' meeting Sabbath evening	6:30
Prayer meeting Wednesday evening	7:30

Come, and welcome to these services.

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Residence 70 West Jefferson street.

CONSISTORY.

Elders.	Deacons.
J. DICKERSON,	H. P. VORDERMARK,
F. D. PAULUS,	G. W. SOLIDAY,
D. W. SOUDER.	J. E. LONERGAN,

BREVITIES.

Excursions to Island Park.

Hot weather makes sleepy churchgoers.

The Children's Mission Band is now equipped for work.

The ladies social for the Plymouth mission netted \$23.15.

The collection for the Reformed Church at Johnstown amounted to \$15.87.

Grace Church will have its annual excursion to Island Park the latter part of August.

Quarterly communion services Sabbath morning, July 7th. It is the duty of every member to be at this service.

The Normal class has about completed its first term in the course. They will have a vacation of several months.

Philip Keuchle and family have removed to Chicago. Miss Ella Middleton has gone to St. Paul. We regret to lose these people from our church.

The pastor will preach a Fourth of July sermon Sabbath evening, July 7. An invitation is extended to all the patriotic sons and daughters of liberty to be present at this service.

The new house on the James' age lot is under roof. Very many favorable comments have already been made upon the plan and arrangement of the house. No doubt every person will be pleased with it.

The pastor's sermon on "Lawlessness and Riot," or "The Wolf in Sheep's Clothing," was not two hours long as stated by one of the city papers. It does not require that length of time to shear the wolf.

Island Park Assembly opens the last of this month. The best of talent has been engaged for the season. Very many of our people will attend the assembly, and each one will be fully repaid for going.

Mr. and Mrs. Bolander, and the pastor and family recently spent an afternoon with Mr. Rudisill's. The afternoon was spent very pleasantly, and was al-

together too short. We enjoy very much our visits among our good country people, and expect to be able to see them all, and often during the summer season at their homes.

Our next Quarterly Communion service will be held Sabbath morning July 7. The pastor shall hope to see the entire membership of the church in attendance. No one can absent himself from these services without doing himself a very serious injustice. An opportunity will be given at this service for the reception of new members into the church. Preparatory services on Friday evening July 5.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Monthly Consistory Meeting and meeting of the trustees, Monday evening, July 1.

Monthly meeting of Ladies' Missionary Society, Wednesday evening, July 3rd.

Preparatory services, Friday evening, July 5, at 8 o'clock. Every member of the church should be at this meeting.

Communion services Sabbath morning, July 7, at 10:30.

Children's Mission Band, Sabbath afternoon, July 7.

SALEM'S REFORMED CHURCH, DUTCH RIDGE.

This congregation is arranging to remodel their church in the near future. The walls are to be papered or painted, and the pulpit stand is to be reconstructed, and the whole house is to have a thorough renovation. With such changes made, this will make a very tasty and pleasant house of worship. The congregation is very active and in good earnest about their work.

The strawberry and cream social held Saturday evening, June 15, netted the church some \$30. This money is to be used in reconstructing the church.

We publish below the report of the treasurer of the Woman's Missionary Society of Miami Classis, showing the amount of money raised by the different congregational societies in this classis. It is certainly a good showing, remembering that it was all money raised for missionary and other benevolent purposes. We hope this good report may inspire the ladies society of Grace Church with increased zeal in their work.

First Church, Dayton.....	\$180 00
Trinity, Dayton.....	132 48
Xenia.....	97 11
West Alexandria.....	19 80
Bloom Centre.....	24 80

Swander's.....	36 00
Bethel, Fairfield Charge.....	54 99
Germantown.....	43 67
Greenville, in six months.....	20 00
Miamisburg.....	62 75
Fairfield.....	131 05
Springboro.....	100 31
Xenia Mission Band.....	42 48
Miamisburg Mission Band.....	17 84
In Treasury.....	7 92
Collection at Lewisburg.....	11 24

\$1,002 44

FUNERAL NOTES.

John Nerhood, who had his home with the family of Henry Smith, 106 DeWald street, died Tuesday morning, June 25, was aged 74 years 10 months and 6 days. He was born in Snyder county, Pa., and removed to Allen county, Ind., in 1861, and to the city of Fort Wayne in 1864. In his life, this brother is spoken of by every person as having been honest and upright and harmless. The family and his friends will greatly miss him. He leaves three brothers and three sisters to mourn his death.

The pastor was assisted in the funeral service by a good brother, who has had a life-long acquaintance with the deceased. The funeral was held Thursday morning, June 27. The Lord makes us mindful of our frailty and of the hour of our departure.

We have before us a copy of Dr Swander's new book, entitled "The Reformed Church." Dr. Swander is a very able, clear, and forcible writer. We hail with joy this new book from his pen. In this booklet the Dr. gives. First, a history of the Reformed Church. Secondly, writes of the doctrine of the church, then of the government, and cultus and customs of the Reformed Church. The church has for a long time been in need of such a book. Very many of the Reformed families have a very meager and superficial knowledge of the history, doctrine, and government of their church, and are not able to give a very satisfactory exposition of the faith which is in them. Willis Souder is agent for this book and will canvass Grace Church. Every family should secure a copy of this book and make it a book of study. The price of the book is 60 cents, which brings it within purchasing reach of every family. Buy the book while you have an opportunity, and read it.

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